

Morgan's Men Under Duke.

By GEORGE DALLAS MOSGROVE.

Copyright, 1902, by THE PUBLISHERS OF THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

At the time of the Stoneman raid the cavalry that I had accompanied to the Shenandoah Valley had returned. In my story, "Bugs Notes from Dixie," heretofore published in The National Tribune, I gave a detailed narrative of the campaign involved in the Stoneman raid, and incidentally the operations of Gen. Duke in connection with the movements around Salisbury, the "Battle of Marion," the final fall of the Battleworks, and the pursuit of Burbridge by "Morgan's men," when he was retreating to Kentucky. Having already told that story, I do not care to travel over the same ground again; therefore, I shall leave an hiatus in this narrative, omitting any further mention of Duke's military movements until he shall have arrived at Christiansburg, Va., on his march to Lynchburg to join the sorely-pressed army of Gen. Lee.

FAREWELL TO THE HILLS OF TENNESSEE.
Close ties of friendship existed between the individuals, officers and men and families living in the valleys of Tennessee and Virginia. Not a few of the Morgan cavaliers even had sweethearts in that region. They were about to part, perhaps for years, not improbably forever.

When orders were received commanding them to march away to augment the ranks of Lee, many of the cavaliers, officers and men sought the homes of their friends to say "good-by." In some families, notwithstanding the gloom of the environment, there was merry-making—lively music, dancing and much good cheer, albeit when it came to giving the parting hand and speaking the words of farewell, there was generally more sadness than merriment. Occasionally a party of unseasoned young cavaliers would assemble in some humble, rustic habitation and strive to drive away dull care with a deceptively and a drowsy accompaniment. In the majority of homes, however, the civilian entertainers and the military guests more fully realized what the parting meant; that the Kentucky cavaliers were marching away never to return; that the tattered, war-worn battle-flags of Dixie would soon be buried forever. If there was music, it was plaintive and sad; there was no dancing, and when taking leave, the farewells were mutedly spoken; for the heart feels most when the lips move not, and the eyes speak the gentle good-bye. To the winsome maiden with the guitar the lover would say:

"Sing me the old songs tonight,
Touch the strings softly and low."
Complying with his request, she would probably sing "Ages May," a popular ballad of that day:

"I kissed her lips and left her side,
In Spring's young and balmy time;
When every blossom seemed a bride
And waters flowed in rhyme;
The birds were warbling in their bowers,
The dew slept on the morning grass,
And Nature sought in vain with flowers
To rival Ages May."

Even Old Seip Africanus, usually so merry when picking the banjo, when called in to lend the charm of his music to the occasion, selected the most plaintive tune in his repertoire, played and sang soft and low:

"I used to play for Massa, in de happy long ago,
Before dey laid him in de grave to rest;
An' he used to like to listen, case he often told me so,
When I sang de songs he used to like de best.
I recollect de evenin' dat I sat beside his bed,
An' I sang de song dat almos' made me weep;
An' den de song was ended, den dey told me he was dead;
Yes, dey said I'd sung ole Massa fast asleep."

Being one of the youngest cavaliers, not yet out of my boyhood, I was, of course, sentimental and full of sentimentality, and, there being many "winsome gals" down in sunny Tennessee, I had sweethearts in various localities. The parting from them, in the morning, was really a sad business, and, as a matter of fact, it was a sad business. I had a claim upon him that he could not refuse. He intended to perform his duty as a soldier, but there was the fact of the semblance of a Confederate Government in existence.

When called upon to follow his old battle-flags, unfurling at the head of his column, there were cheers from his "old Regulars," who declared that they would follow him and the flag, wherever he would lead. They would follow. Of the entire 600 there assembled not more than 100 followed Duke's old Regulars, the remainder being the "stragglers" who were unable to realize the fact that the cause was utterly lost. Even when their fate stared them in the face they were unable to do so. When our final fate came, it was consummated in the twinkling of an eye. We floated conditively to the edge of the cat-eract, went over the edge, and lay lying stunned at the bottom, never looking back at the path we had followed. The Southern people strained every nerve to resist, and when all efforts failed sank passively and unresistingly into the hands of the conqueror. Since the days of Roman conquest the world had not seen such energy, persistency and integrity in acts of subjugation. Since the days of the Crusades, the Arabian and the Arabian shook the east with his fierce legions, a more stubborn, in-lash and desperate resistance had not been witnessed against attack so resolute, systematic and overwhelming.

DISCOURAGED BUT RESOLUTE.
Since Feb. 4, 1865, Gen. Breckinridge had been Secretary of War, and the command of the Department had devolved upon Gen. Early, who, however, fell ill, and was succeeded by Gen. Echols, an officer possessing remarkable administrative capacity and great tact, as well as energy. Under the trying circumstances he did everything possible to preserve the morale of the troops—some 1,000 or 2,000 infantry, besides the cavalry brigades of Vaughn, Cosby, Giltner and Duke. The "Morgan men" were doing duty as infantry, their horses being sent to North Carolina, where forage was more plentiful. Marching about 25 miles every day, Duke's men became greatly disgusted with infantry service, their feet suffering as much as their temper. It was observed that the men just returned from prison, although least prepared for it, complained least of the hardships of the march. The troops under Echols were veterans, and they understood the signs that were now rife and public. However, they were not altogether happy, and, although their old enthusiasm was gone, they were still resolute. It was known that Gen. Lee had evacuated Richmond, and we hoped that, followed by the bulk of his army, he would be able to retreat in safety to some point where he could effect a junction with Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, and, before the latter could be overtaken, to disengage himself from the large armies.

While Gen. Echols was still confident that he would be able to join Lee at some point southwest of Richmond, most probably Danville, he learned that the great Southern chieftain had surrendered at Appomattox. We were then at Christiansburg, some 75 or 80 miles west of Lynchburg. When the news first came it paralyzed everyone. If the light of heaven had gone out no more utter despair and consternation would have ensued. Men looked at each other as if they had just heard a sentence of death passed upon all. The effect of the news upon the infantry was to cause an entire disorganization. Crowds of men threw down their arms and left, and those who remained lost all sense of discipline.

On the following day, Gen. Echols called his leading officers around him, announced that he intended taking all the men who would follow him and endeavor to join Gen. Joe Johnston. When he inquired of his officers concerning the temper of the men, the infantry officers declared that their men would not go and that it would be futile to attempt coercion.

Gen. Echols then issued an order for following the infantry soldiers for 60 days. He believed that this method would secure many to the Confederacy, at the end of that time, if the war should be still going on, while to attempt to force them to follow him would not only be unavailing, but would make them all bitterly hostile in the future. He issued orders to the cavalry commanders to be prepared to follow him.

Cosby's, among them being the gallant Adj. Freeman, overtook and joined the little column moving southward. Without adventure, seeing nothing of Stoneman, the cavalry entered North Carolina. At Statesville there was a separation. Gen. Echols left the column, to go to Gen. Johnston's rendezvous.

Duke pushed forward to Lynchburg, where he expected to find Col. Napier with the horses belonging to his brigade. Vaughn marched to Morgantown south of the Catawba River. Soon after Duke crossed the Catawba he received information that a part of Stoneman's cavalry was marching from the west in the same direction. He hoped, however, by moving rapidly, to reach Lynchburg before the arrival of Stoneman's force. Confederates and Federals were moving upon roads nearly parallel and not far apart. Scouting parties met, during the afternoon, on some of the by-roads connecting the main ones, and spirited skirmishing ensued.

When he was within two miles of Lynchburg, Duke was informed by his scouts that the enemy had not only occupied the place, but were moving out to meet him. The General instantly recognized the fact that he was in a "predicament." To countermand would be ruinous, and to go forward would involve him in an engagement with Stoneman, which he very reasonably supposed would be disastrous to his small command. His policy was to avoid a fight—not to seek one. He remembered that an officer, a little while before, had mentioned the fact that an obscure road turned off to the left, about two miles from Lynchburg, and led to other traces and paths that conducted to the main road to Charlotte, some 30 miles southeast of Lynchburg. Since leaving Statesville, Duke had been marching southwest. Fortunately when he received information of the proximity of the enemy, the head of his column was just at a road which answered to the description of the one given by the officer, and, after a short search, he found it.

While Duke's men were necessarily taking some forage from a South Carolina farm, an old lady, the mistress of the plantation, appeared upon the scene and in bitter tone and uncomplimentary language upbraided the foraging Kentuckians, saying among other things: "You are a gang of thieves, rascally Kentuckians, afraid to go home, while our boys are surrendering decently."

"You are speaking out of your turn," South Carolina had much to say in beginning this war, but we Kentuckians have contrived to win it.

(To be continued.)

THE "HEARTS" IMMORTALIZED.

Gen. Gibson's Words to the First and Second Divisions, Twenty-fourth Corps.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: At the time of Miltroy's retreat from Winchester the 12th W. Va. was in the Second Brigade, commanded by Col. McReynolds, 1st N. Y. (Lincoln) Cav. The 12th W. Va., 6th Md. and 6th Pa. Cav. were ordered to Winchester on June 12, 1862, and the battle was on the 13th, 14th and 15th. After that we were brigaded with the 34th Mass. and 18th Conn., and 8th or 9th Pa. Cav. We were in the Shenandoah Valley until the winter of '64 and '65; we were transferred to the Army of the James, and were in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond. About March 29, 1865, we were ordered to the Chickahominy River to lay a pontoon bridge for Sheridan's cavalry to cross, and we followed them around the Army of the Potomac to Hatcher's Run, a few miles south of Petersburg, where we were engaged on the front line for two or three days, and on April 2 we were ordered to move back to the rear. We fought the battle of Piedmont, and on the Lynchburg Raid. The 12th some time during the summer of 1864 was brigaded with the 54th Pa. and 63d Ill., and remained in this brigade until the close of the war. They were in the Shenandoah Valley until the winter of '64 and '65; we were transferred to the Army of the James, and were in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond.

About March 29, 1865, we were ordered to the Chickahominy River to lay a pontoon bridge for Sheridan's cavalry to cross, and we followed them around the Army of the Potomac to Hatcher's Run, a few miles south of Petersburg, where we were engaged on the front line for two or three days, and on April 2 we were ordered to move back to the rear. We fought the battle of Piedmont, and on the Lynchburg Raid. The 12th some time during the summer of 1864 was brigaded with the 54th Pa. and 63d Ill., and remained in this brigade until the close of the war. They were in the Shenandoah Valley until the winter of '64 and '65; we were transferred to the Army of the James, and were in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond.

On the next day Mr. Davis and his Cabinet arrived at Charlotte, escorted by Gen. Sherman, who had been ordered to the city by President Lincoln. The 12th W. Va. was in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond. About March 29, 1865, we were ordered to the Chickahominy River to lay a pontoon bridge for Sheridan's cavalry to cross, and we followed them around the Army of the Potomac to Hatcher's Run, a few miles south of Petersburg, where we were engaged on the front line for two or three days, and on April 2 we were ordered to move back to the rear. We fought the battle of Piedmont, and on the Lynchburg Raid. The 12th some time during the summer of 1864 was brigaded with the 54th Pa. and 63d Ill., and remained in this brigade until the close of the war. They were in the Shenandoah Valley until the winter of '64 and '65; we were transferred to the Army of the James, and were in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond.

On the next day Mr. Davis and his Cabinet arrived at Charlotte, escorted by Gen. Sherman, who had been ordered to the city by President Lincoln. The 12th W. Va. was in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond. About March 29, 1865, we were ordered to the Chickahominy River to lay a pontoon bridge for Sheridan's cavalry to cross, and we followed them around the Army of the Potomac to Hatcher's Run, a few miles south of Petersburg, where we were engaged on the front line for two or three days, and on April 2 we were ordered to move back to the rear. We fought the battle of Piedmont, and on the Lynchburg Raid. The 12th some time during the summer of 1864 was brigaded with the 54th Pa. and 63d Ill., and remained in this brigade until the close of the war. They were in the Shenandoah Valley until the winter of '64 and '65; we were transferred to the Army of the James, and were in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond.

On the next day Mr. Davis and his Cabinet arrived at Charlotte, escorted by Gen. Sherman, who had been ordered to the city by President Lincoln. The 12th W. Va. was in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond. About March 29, 1865, we were ordered to the Chickahominy River to lay a pontoon bridge for Sheridan's cavalry to cross, and we followed them around the Army of the Potomac to Hatcher's Run, a few miles south of Petersburg, where we were engaged on the front line for two or three days, and on April 2 we were ordered to move back to the rear. We fought the battle of Piedmont, and on the Lynchburg Raid. The 12th some time during the summer of 1864 was brigaded with the 54th Pa. and 63d Ill., and remained in this brigade until the close of the war. They were in the Shenandoah Valley until the winter of '64 and '65; we were transferred to the Army of the James, and were in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond.

On the next day Mr. Davis and his Cabinet arrived at Charlotte, escorted by Gen. Sherman, who had been ordered to the city by President Lincoln. The 12th W. Va. was in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond. About March 29, 1865, we were ordered to the Chickahominy River to lay a pontoon bridge for Sheridan's cavalry to cross, and we followed them around the Army of the Potomac to Hatcher's Run, a few miles south of Petersburg, where we were engaged on the front line for two or three days, and on April 2 we were ordered to move back to the rear. We fought the battle of Piedmont, and on the Lynchburg Raid. The 12th some time during the summer of 1864 was brigaded with the 54th Pa. and 63d Ill., and remained in this brigade until the close of the war. They were in the Shenandoah Valley until the winter of '64 and '65; we were transferred to the Army of the James, and were in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond.

On the next day Mr. Davis and his Cabinet arrived at Charlotte, escorted by Gen. Sherman, who had been ordered to the city by President Lincoln. The 12th W. Va. was in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond. About March 29, 1865, we were ordered to the Chickahominy River to lay a pontoon bridge for Sheridan's cavalry to cross, and we followed them around the Army of the Potomac to Hatcher's Run, a few miles south of Petersburg, where we were engaged on the front line for two or three days, and on April 2 we were ordered to move back to the rear. We fought the battle of Piedmont, and on the Lynchburg Raid. The 12th some time during the summer of 1864 was brigaded with the 54th Pa. and 63d Ill., and remained in this brigade until the close of the war. They were in the Shenandoah Valley until the winter of '64 and '65; we were transferred to the Army of the James, and were in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond.

On the next day Mr. Davis and his Cabinet arrived at Charlotte, escorted by Gen. Sherman, who had been ordered to the city by President Lincoln. The 12th W. Va. was in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond. About March 29, 1865, we were ordered to the Chickahominy River to lay a pontoon bridge for Sheridan's cavalry to cross, and we followed them around the Army of the Potomac to Hatcher's Run, a few miles south of Petersburg, where we were engaged on the front line for two or three days, and on April 2 we were ordered to move back to the rear. We fought the battle of Piedmont, and on the Lynchburg Raid. The 12th some time during the summer of 1864 was brigaded with the 54th Pa. and 63d Ill., and remained in this brigade until the close of the war. They were in the Shenandoah Valley until the winter of '64 and '65; we were transferred to the Army of the James, and were in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond.

On the next day Mr. Davis and his Cabinet arrived at Charlotte, escorted by Gen. Sherman, who had been ordered to the city by President Lincoln. The 12th W. Va. was in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond. About March 29, 1865, we were ordered to the Chickahominy River to lay a pontoon bridge for Sheridan's cavalry to cross, and we followed them around the Army of the Potomac to Hatcher's Run, a few miles south of Petersburg, where we were engaged on the front line for two or three days, and on April 2 we were ordered to move back to the rear. We fought the battle of Piedmont, and on the Lynchburg Raid. The 12th some time during the summer of 1864 was brigaded with the 54th Pa. and 63d Ill., and remained in this brigade until the close of the war. They were in the Shenandoah Valley until the winter of '64 and '65; we were transferred to the Army of the James, and were in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond.

On the next day Mr. Davis and his Cabinet arrived at Charlotte, escorted by Gen. Sherman, who had been ordered to the city by President Lincoln. The 12th W. Va. was in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond. About March 29, 1865, we were ordered to the Chickahominy River to lay a pontoon bridge for Sheridan's cavalry to cross, and we followed them around the Army of the Potomac to Hatcher's Run, a few miles south of Petersburg, where we were engaged on the front line for two or three days, and on April 2 we were ordered to move back to the rear. We fought the battle of Piedmont, and on the Lynchburg Raid. The 12th some time during the summer of 1864 was brigaded with the 54th Pa. and 63d Ill., and remained in this brigade until the close of the war. They were in the Shenandoah Valley until the winter of '64 and '65; we were transferred to the Army of the James, and were in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond.

On the next day Mr. Davis and his Cabinet arrived at Charlotte, escorted by Gen. Sherman, who had been ordered to the city by President Lincoln. The 12th W. Va. was in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond. About March 29, 1865, we were ordered to the Chickahominy River to lay a pontoon bridge for Sheridan's cavalry to cross, and we followed them around the Army of the Potomac to Hatcher's Run, a few miles south of Petersburg, where we were engaged on the front line for two or three days, and on April 2 we were ordered to move back to the rear. We fought the battle of Piedmont, and on the Lynchburg Raid. The 12th some time during the summer of 1864 was brigaded with the 54th Pa. and 63d Ill., and remained in this brigade until the close of the war. They were in the Shenandoah Valley until the winter of '64 and '65; we were transferred to the Army of the James, and were in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond.

On the next day Mr. Davis and his Cabinet arrived at Charlotte, escorted by Gen. Sherman, who had been ordered to the city by President Lincoln. The 12th W. Va. was in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond. About March 29, 1865, we were ordered to the Chickahominy River to lay a pontoon bridge for Sheridan's cavalry to cross, and we followed them around the Army of the Potomac to Hatcher's Run, a few miles south of Petersburg, where we were engaged on the front line for two or three days, and on April 2 we were ordered to move back to the rear. We fought the battle of Piedmont, and on the Lynchburg Raid. The 12th some time during the summer of 1864 was brigaded with the 54th Pa. and 63d Ill., and remained in this brigade until the close of the war. They were in the Shenandoah Valley until the winter of '64 and '65; we were transferred to the Army of the James, and were in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond.

On the next day Mr. Davis and his Cabinet arrived at Charlotte, escorted by Gen. Sherman, who had been ordered to the city by President Lincoln. The 12th W. Va. was in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond. About March 29, 1865, we were ordered to the Chickahominy River to lay a pontoon bridge for Sheridan's cavalry to cross, and we followed them around the Army of the Potomac to Hatcher's Run, a few miles south of Petersburg, where we were engaged on the front line for two or three days, and on April 2 we were ordered to move back to the rear. We fought the battle of Piedmont, and on the Lynchburg Raid. The 12th some time during the summer of 1864 was brigaded with the 54th Pa. and 63d Ill., and remained in this brigade until the close of the war. They were in the Shenandoah Valley until the winter of '64 and '65; we were transferred to the Army of the James, and were in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond.

On the next day Mr. Davis and his Cabinet arrived at Charlotte, escorted by Gen. Sherman, who had been ordered to the city by President Lincoln. The 12th W. Va. was in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond. About March 29, 1865, we were ordered to the Chickahominy River to lay a pontoon bridge for Sheridan's cavalry to cross, and we followed them around the Army of the Potomac to Hatcher's Run, a few miles south of Petersburg, where we were engaged on the front line for two or three days, and on April 2 we were ordered to move back to the rear. We fought the battle of Piedmont, and on the Lynchburg Raid. The 12th some time during the summer of 1864 was brigaded with the 54th Pa. and 63d Ill., and remained in this brigade until the close of the war. They were in the Shenandoah Valley until the winter of '64 and '65; we were transferred to the Army of the James, and were in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond.

On the next day Mr. Davis and his Cabinet arrived at Charlotte, escorted by Gen. Sherman, who had been ordered to the city by President Lincoln. The 12th W. Va. was in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond. About March 29, 1865, we were ordered to the Chickahominy River to lay a pontoon bridge for Sheridan's cavalry to cross, and we followed them around the Army of the Potomac to Hatcher's Run, a few miles south of Petersburg, where we were engaged on the front line for two or three days, and on April 2 we were ordered to move back to the rear. We fought the battle of Piedmont, and on the Lynchburg Raid. The 12th some time during the summer of 1864 was brigaded with the 54th Pa. and 63d Ill., and remained in this brigade until the close of the war. They were in the Shenandoah Valley until the winter of '64 and '65; we were transferred to the Army of the James, and were in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond.

On the next day Mr. Davis and his Cabinet arrived at Charlotte, escorted by Gen. Sherman, who had been ordered to the city by President Lincoln. The 12th W. Va. was in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond. About March 29, 1865, we were ordered to the Chickahominy River to lay a pontoon bridge for Sheridan's cavalry to cross, and we followed them around the Army of the Potomac to Hatcher's Run, a few miles south of Petersburg, where we were engaged on the front line for two or three days, and on April 2 we were ordered to move back to the rear. We fought the battle of Piedmont, and on the Lynchburg Raid. The 12th some time during the summer of 1864 was brigaded with the 54th Pa. and 63d Ill., and remained in this brigade until the close of the war. They were in the Shenandoah Valley until the winter of '64 and '65; we were transferred to the Army of the James, and were in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond.

On the next day Mr. Davis and his Cabinet arrived at Charlotte, escorted by Gen. Sherman, who had been ordered to the city by President Lincoln. The 12th W. Va. was in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond. About March 29, 1865, we were ordered to the Chickahominy River to lay a pontoon bridge for Sheridan's cavalry to cross, and we followed them around the Army of the Potomac to Hatcher's Run, a few miles south of Petersburg, where we were engaged on the front line for two or three days, and on April 2 we were ordered to move back to the rear. We fought the battle of Piedmont, and on the Lynchburg Raid. The 12th some time during the summer of 1864 was brigaded with the 54th Pa. and 63d Ill., and remained in this brigade until the close of the war. They were in the Shenandoah Valley until the winter of '64 and '65; we were transferred to the Army of the James, and were in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond.

On the next day Mr. Davis and his Cabinet arrived at Charlotte, escorted by Gen. Sherman, who had been ordered to the city by President Lincoln. The 12th W. Va. was in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond. About March 29, 1865, we were ordered to the Chickahominy River to lay a pontoon bridge for Sheridan's cavalry to cross, and we followed them around the Army of the Potomac to Hatcher's Run, a few miles south of Petersburg, where we were engaged on the front line for two or three days, and on April 2 we were ordered to move back to the rear. We fought the battle of Piedmont, and on the Lynchburg Raid. The 12th some time during the summer of 1864 was brigaded with the 54th Pa. and 63d Ill., and remained in this brigade until the close of the war. They were in the Shenandoah Valley until the winter of '64 and '65; we were transferred to the Army of the James, and were in the Second Brigade, Second (or Independent) Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, and were stationed on Chaffin's farm, about seven miles south of Richmond.

THE CRANKS' MECCA.

People Who Come With Strange Inventions, Mythical Claims, and Wild Schemes, and Who are Promptly Sent to the Asylum.

When Gen. Phil Sheridan was commander of the United States Army, several months before his death, he remarked to one of his Aides that Washington had become the Mecca of cranks. The remark was prompted by the fact that he had three demented callers at his office in the War Department in a single day, and it was made as the last member of the unwelcome trio made his exit through the office door.

The first caller desired the General to examine a large roll of paper, on which was a tangle of red and black lines, angles and figures, which the fellow claimed to be a "destroyer," a sort of complicated cannon, warranted to wipe out an army or annihilate a fleet of hostile war vessels at one fell swoop. Gen. Sheridan curtly informed the inventor that he neither had the time nor the inclination to examine his Chinese puzzle, or what not, and the man was shown his way to the corridor. The second visitor carried a peculiar-looking object, which he announced as "McKnight's War Magnet," for attracting the missiles fired by the enemy to a given point, where they would be expended against space and not against the soldiers. He claimed that the opposing army. He said the principle of the thing was as simple as water, as a magnet will attract metal, and all missiles are made of iron.

The third caller sought to interest Gen. Sheridan in his war balloon, an imaginary affair, warranted to destroy entire armies, devastating his country and denuding his lines of supply. It was after the colored messenger had invited the balloon crank to step outside that Gen. Sheridan declared that Washington had become the cranks' Mecca.

He followed this statement by giving his colored messenger orders not to admit any other crank-looking callers. About an hour later there was a commotion outside of the door and the sound of angry voices.

"I'm not gwine in dar ef I kin hep 'em," the negro messenger was heard to exclaim.

"Get out of my way, you rascal!" came the excited rejoinder.

One of Gen. Sheridan's Aides stepped out into the corridor to investigate the cause of the commotion. He found Representative Hook, of Tennessee, struggling to pass the colored guard, or "blackguard," as Judge Hook termed him.

The Congressman was promptly admitted and Gen. Sheridan laughingly explained the situation to him.

"What's the matter with the Tennesseean?" he asked.

"This is the first time I have ever been taken for a crank, and I've had some funny experiences in my time."

The colored doorkeeper afterwards explained that "I'd been looking like dem odd balloonatics dat had bin boderin' de General."

The term "cranks' Mecca" was not wrongly applied to Washington, as after Gen. Sheridan's death demented persons of every degree, color and nationality, with many weird hallucinations, find their way to this city every year, but particularly during the busy War season, when Congress is in session. So numerous have these unbalanced tourists become that one police official, known as the Sanitary Officer, is required to devote much of his time to this unfortunate class of human beings.

The term "cranks' Mecca" was not wrongly applied to Washington, as after Gen. Sheridan's death demented persons of every degree, color and nationality, with many weird hallucinations, find their way to this city every year, but particularly during the busy War season, when Congress is in session. So numerous have these unbalanced tourists become that one police official, known as the Sanitary Officer, is required to devote much of his time to this unfortunate class of human beings.

The term "cranks' Mecca" was not wrongly applied to Washington, as after Gen. Sheridan's death demented persons of every degree, color and nationality, with many weird hallucinations, find their way to this city every year, but particularly during the busy War season, when Congress is in session. So numerous have these unbalanced tourists become that one police official, known as the Sanitary Officer, is required to devote much of his time to this unfortunate class of human beings.

The term "cranks' Mecca" was not wrongly applied to Washington, as after Gen. Sheridan's death demented persons of every degree, color and nationality, with many weird hallucinations, find their way to this city every year, but particularly during the busy War season, when Congress is in session. So numerous have these unbalanced tourists become that one police official, known as the Sanitary Officer, is required to devote much of his time to this unfortunate class of human beings.

The term "cranks' Mecca" was not wrongly applied to Washington, as after Gen. Sheridan's death demented persons of every degree, color and nationality, with many weird hallucinations, find their way to this city every year, but particularly during the busy War season, when Congress is in session. So numerous have these unbalanced tourists become that one police official, known as the Sanitary Officer, is required to devote much of his time to this unfortunate class of human beings.

The term "cranks' Mecca" was not wrongly applied to Washington, as after Gen. Sheridan's death demented persons of every degree, color and nationality, with many weird hallucinations, find their way to this city every year, but particularly during the busy War season, when Congress is in session. So numerous have these unbalanced tourists become that one police official, known as the Sanitary Officer, is required to devote much of his time to this unfortunate class of human beings.

The term "cranks' Mecca" was not wrongly applied to Washington, as after Gen. Sheridan's death demented persons of every degree, color and nationality, with many weird hallucinations, find their way to this city every year, but particularly during the busy War season, when Congress is in session. So numerous have these unbalanced tourists become that one police official, known as the Sanitary Officer, is required to devote much of his time to this unfortunate class of human beings.

The term "cranks' Mecca" was not wrongly applied to Washington, as after Gen. Sheridan's death demented persons of every degree, color and nationality, with many weird hallucinations, find their way to this city every year, but particularly during the busy War season, when Congress is in session. So numerous have these unbalanced tourists become that one police official, known as the Sanitary Officer, is required to devote much of his time to this unfortunate class of human beings.

The term "cranks' Mecca" was not wrongly applied to Washington, as after Gen. Sheridan's death demented persons of every degree, color and nationality, with many weird hallucinations, find their way to this city every year, but particularly during the busy War season, when Congress is in session. So numerous have these unbalanced tourists become that one police official, known as the Sanitary Officer, is required to devote much of his time to this unfortunate class of human beings.

The term "cranks' Mecca" was not wrongly applied to Washington, as after Gen. Sheridan's death demented persons of every degree, color and nationality, with many weird hallucinations, find their way to this city every year, but particularly during the busy War season, when Congress is in session. So numerous have these unbalanced tourists become that one police official, known as the Sanitary Officer, is required to devote much of his time to this unfortunate class of human beings.

The term "cranks' Mecca" was not wrongly applied to Washington, as after Gen. Sheridan's death demented persons of every degree, color and nationality, with many weird hallucinations, find their way to this city every year, but particularly during the busy War season, when Congress is in session. So numerous have these unbalanced tourists become that one police official, known as the Sanitary Officer, is required to devote much of his time to this unfortunate class of human beings.

The term "cranks' Mecca" was not wrongly applied to Washington, as after Gen. Sheridan's death demented persons of every degree, color and nationality, with many weird hallucinations, find their way to this city every year, but particularly during the busy War season, when Congress is in session. So numerous have these unbalanced tourists become that one police official, known as the Sanitary Officer, is required to devote much of his time to this unfortunate class of human beings.

The term "cranks' Mecca" was not wrongly applied to Washington, as after Gen. Sheridan's death demented persons of every degree, color and nationality, with many weird hallucinations, find their way to this city every year, but particularly during the busy War season, when Congress is in session. So numerous have these unbalanced tourists become that one police official, known as the Sanitary Officer, is required to devote much of his time to this unfortunate class of human beings.

The term "cranks' Mecca" was not wrongly applied to Washington, as after Gen. Sheridan's death demented persons of every degree, color and nationality, with many weird hallucinations, find their way to this city every year, but particularly during the busy War season, when Congress is in session. So numerous have these unbalanced tourists become that one police official, known as the Sanitary Officer, is required to devote much of his time to this unfortunate class of human beings.

The term "cranks' Mecca" was not wrongly applied to Washington, as after Gen. Sheridan's death demented persons of every degree, color and nationality, with many weird hallucinations, find their way to this city every year, but particularly during the busy War season, when Congress is in session. So numerous have these unbalanced tourists become that one police official, known as the Sanitary Officer, is required to devote much of his time to this unfortunate class of human beings.